Communications Plan
Union Station Air Quality Monitoring Report Release

To announce our intent and provide details of the air quality monitoring at Union Station, R5 held a stakeholder meeting on June 4th, 2015. OCIR coordinated this meeting and invited the local congressional delegation, Metra, Amtrak, and several local NGOs. Following the stakeholder meeting, ARD and OPA had a conference call with Michael Hawthorne on June 10th to inform him of our intended monitoring starting June 15th. During and after completing the air quality monitoring, ARD met with Amtrak officials to describe the data we collected. Communication of the results and report will follow a similar pattern.

Pre-Release

- Update website with desk statement, final report, and contact information to obtain data (ARD and OEC – Allison Nowotarski)
- Provide Amtrak and Metra a copy of the final report one day prior to briefing (Michael Compher, Air Monitoring Section Chief)

Day of Release

- ARD (Michael Compher) briefs same stakeholder group that attended the pre-monitoring briefing to discuss results and steps forward (OCIR - Ronna Beckman will schedule and coordinate and invite). No conference line will be available.
- Publish the webpage with data and report later that day (OEC – Allison Nowotarski)
- OEC (Josh Singer) sends the link to the website and a brief release statement, and offers an interview to reporters Dave Savini (Sun Times) and Michael Hawthorne (Chicago Tribune), and potentially tweet a link to the web page with the report.

Post-Release

- Press calls will be coordinated through OPA (Joshua Singer) with ARD (Michael Compher)
- Data will be provided upon request by ARD (Michael Compher)

Q. EPA states, "The concentration of PM2.5 in air on the train platforms was 23-96 percent higher than concentrations recorded on nearby streets on the days that monitoring was conducted last summer." But from looking at EPA's graph, it appears that the average PM2.5 concentration on the south platform is 372% higher than the average of all background concentrations. Can you explain these numbers?

A. Both calculations are correct but they measure different things.

For each hourly platform test value, EPA calculated the percentage reduction necessary to reach the street level concentration. The range was from 23 -96 percent. Between 7 and 8 a.m. on June 16, the street level measured 26 $\mu g/m^3$ and the south platform measured 673 $\mu g/m^3$, so PM2.5 reductions of 96 percent on the south platform would be needed to reach the street concentration. Between 6 and 7 a.m. on June 15, the street level measured 41.33 $\mu g/m^3$ and the north platform measured 54 $\mu g/m^3$, so PM2.5 reductions of 23 percent would be needed on the north platform to reach the street concentration.

EPA's graph depicts average concentrations over the entire duration of the study on the north platform, the south platform, and at street level. Average concentrations on the north and south platforms were, respectively, 200% and 372% greater than the measured average concentration on the street. To achieve the average street level concentrations, average levels on the north and south platforms would have had to be reduced by 67% and 79%, respectively.